

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA  
CHARLOTTE DIVISION

CIVIL NO. 3:07CV81-DCK

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

\$15,500.00 IN UNITED STATES  
CURRENCY,

Defendant.

**CONSENT JUDGMENT**

WHEREAS, the United States filed a verified complaint on February 20, 2007, for the forfeiture of the defendant property, and this Court found probable cause for such forfeiture and issued a warrant for arrest in rem; and,

WHEREAS, the United States mailed copies of the complaint and warrant by certified mail, return receipt requested, to Eddie Charles Patterson (hereinafter "claimant"), through counsel, as the only interested person then known to the government; and,

WHEREAS, the Marshals Service duly executed the warrant for arrest in rem, as shown by the Form USM-285 filed herein on March 11, 2008; and,

WHEREAS, on April 17 and 24 and May 1, 2007, the Marshals Service published notice of this action in the Mecklenburg Times, as shown by the Form USM-285 filed herein on May 16, 2007; and,

WHEREAS, no person other than claimant has filed a claim or an answer herein; and,

WHEREAS, claimant stipulates that there is probable cause for forfeiture of the defendant property and that the United States District Court for the Western District of North Carolina has in rem jurisdiction over the defendant property; and,

WHEREAS, the parties have agreed to forfeiture of the sum of \$2,500.00 of the defendant property, with \$13,000.00 to be released to claimant's wife, Lydia Patterson, in full settlement of all claims herein; and,

WHEREAS, claimant hereby releases and forever discharges the United States, its agents, servants and employees, its successors or assigns, and all state or local governmental entities or law enforcement agencies in North Carolina and their agents, servants and employees, their heirs, successors, or assigns, from any and all actions, causes of action, suits, proceedings, debts, dues, contracts, judgments, damages, claims, and/or demands whatsoever in law or equity which claimant or his heirs, successors, or assigns ever had, now have, or may have in the future in connection with this investigation, seizure, detention, and forfeiture; and,

WHEREAS, the parties consent to the United States Magistrate Judge conducting all proceedings, including entry of this Consent Judgment, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §636(c);

THE COURT FINDS THAT:

1. A verified complaint for forfeiture in rem of the defendant property was filed on February 20, 2007. This Court found probable cause for forfeiture and issued a warrant for arrest in rem.
2. Process was fully issued in this action and returned according to law.
3. The parties have agreed to the forfeiture of the sum of \$2,500.00, with the remaining \$13,000.00 to be released to claimant's wife, Lydia Patterson, in full settlement of this case.
4. The actions taken by the United States were reasonable and proper.

Based on these findings, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that:

1. The sum of \$2500.00 is forfeited to the United States, to be disposed of according to law.
2. The remaining \$13,000.00 shall be released to Lydia Patterson.
2. Each party is to bear its own costs of this action, including attorneys fees.

Signed this the 10<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2008.

  
UNITED STATES District JUDGE

ON MOTION OF AND WITH CONSENT OF THE PARTIES:

FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

GRETCHEN C. F. SHAPPERT  
United States Attorney

By

  
WILLIAM A. BRAFFORD

Assistant United States Attorney

Date:

April 2, 2008

  
EDDIE CHARLES PATTERSON

Date:

3/28/08

  
KENNETH P. ANDRESEN  
Attorney for Eddie Charles Patterson

Date:

3/19/08

CONSENTED AND AGREED TO:

  
LYDIA PATTERSON

Date:

3/28/08